

Preliminary Amendment

Applicant: Juergen Hoegerl et al.

Serial No.: Unknown

(Priority Application No. DE 102 11 993.7)

(International Application No. PCT/DE03/00886)

Filed: Herewith

(Priority Date: March 18, 2002)

(International Filing Date: March 18, 2003)

Docket No.: I431.114.101/FIN 373 PCT/US

Title: METHOD AND DEVICE FOR PACKAGING AND TRANSPORTING ELECTRONIC COMPONENTS (As Amended)

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1-15 without prejudice.

Please add claims 16-35 as follows:

Patent Claims WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1-15. (Cancelled)

16. A method for packaging and for transporting electronic devices comprising:
pressing coverings, which are made of a material that shrinks largely irreversibly under the action of temperature, into receptacles, which are open both sides, of a belt-type carrier body, wherein the belt-type carrier body has a belt top side and a belt underside;
inserting electronic devices into an open side of the coverings;
closing off the belt top side and belt underside with a covering sheet; and
heating the belt-type carrier body with the coverings situated therein and electronic devices inserted in the coverings.

17. The method of claim 16, further including pressing shell-type coverings into the receptacles of the belt-type carrier body to produce a force-locking fit.

18. The method of claim 16, further including providing a marking on the coverings by means of an indexing apparatus after insertion of the covering into the belt-type carrier body.

19. The method of claim 18, wherein the marking is applied by means of a stamp.

20. The method of claim 18, wherein the markings is applied by means of a laser.

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21. The method of claim 18, wherein the belt-type carrier body is provided with an indexing.
22. The method of claim 16, further including releasing the coverings from inner walls of the receptacles of the belt-type carrier body after heating.
23. The method of claim 16, further including firmly enclosing the electronic devices by a shrinking coverings during heating.
24. The method of claim 16, further including removing connecting sections of the covering sheet between adjacent receptacles after the application of the covering sheet to the belt top side and underside.
25. An apparatus for packaging and transporting electronic devices comprising:
 - a belt-type carrier body having a belt top side, a belt underside, and having receptacles that are open on both sides between belt top side and belt underside;
 - coverings made of a material that shrinks largely irreversibly under the action of temperature that are pressed into the receptacles;
 - electronic devices inserted into an open side of the coverings; and
 - a covering sheet closing off the belt top side and the belt underside;
 - wherein the covering sheet on the belt top side and belt underside is removable.
26. The apparatus of claim 25, wherein the covering sheet on the belt top side is removed for the insertion and withdrawal of the electronic device.
27. The apparatus of claim 25, wherein the covering sheet on the belt underside is removed for the insertion and withdrawal of the electronic devices.

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28. The apparatus of claim 25, wherein the belt-type carrier body has a single row with an arbitrary number of receptacles.

29. The apparatus of claim 25, the belt-type carrier body has at least two rows that each have an arbitrary number of receptacles and are arranged next to one another.

30. The apparatus of claim 25 having a placement direction that is identical to a withdrawal direction.

31. The apparatus of claim 25 having a placement direction opposite to a withdrawal direction.

32. A method for placement and withdrawal of electronic devices relative to an apparatus having a belt-type carrier body with a belt top side, a belt underside, and receptacles that are open on both sides therebetween, comprising:

populating the receptacles with coverings that are shrinkable under the action of temperature to produce a force-locking connection;

populating the coverings with the electronic devices;

closing off the belt top side and the belt underside of the belt-type carrier body with a covering sheet;

heating the apparatus to produce a positively locking connection between the coverings and the electronic devices; and

withdrawing the electronic devices via the removal of the covering sheet.

33. The method of claim 32, further including turning the apparatus 180° and wherein the removal of the covering sheet includes removing the covering sheet adjacent the belt underside.

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34. The method of claim 32, wherein the removal of the covering sheet includes removing the covering sheet adjacent the belt top side.

35. The method of claim 32, wherein the direction of placement and withdrawal of electronic devices is normal to a direction of movement of the apparatus.